

OBITUARY

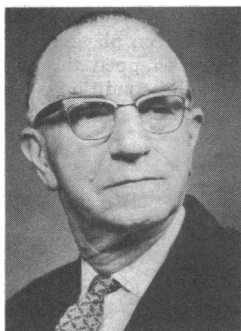
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H I McCLURE

MB, BCH, BAO, FRCSED, FRCOG

Mr H I McClure, who was a consultant surgeon to several Belfast hospitals, died on 9 January. He was 77.

Harold Ian McClure was born in Dundonald, County Down. Educated at Campbell College, Belfast, he subsequently entered the Queen's University of Belfast to study medicine in 1922, graduating in 1927. He then held resident house surgeon posts in the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Ulster Hospital for Women and Children, Belfast. In



1929 he obtained a BSc in pathology, bacteriology, and biochemistry, and in 1932 he took the FRCSED. After appointments in obstetrics and gynaecology to the Royal Maternity and Royal Victoria hospitals, Belfast, and the Ards District Hospital, Newtownards, he obtained the MRCOG in 1935 and in 1944 was elected to the fellowship. In 1937 he was appointed lecturer in midwifery and gynaecology at the Queen's University of Belfast. His consultant appointments included the Royal Victoria, Belfast City, and Musgrave Park hospitals and the Royal Maternity and Jubilee Maternity hospitals. These posts he held until his retirement in 1969.

Mr McClure's long and extensive experience and his natural gift as a teacher made him one of the outstanding figures in the Belfast School of Medicine. He always took a personal interest in the careers of younger members of the profession, and his advice, given so willingly, gained him the lifelong friendship not only of themselves but also of their families. After his retirement he continued his close contact with many of his "young men," as he called them, and "Wednesday night at Ian's" became a well-known evening enjoyed by himself and those who visited him.

Mr McClure was chairman of the South Belfast hospital management committee from its inception in 1949 until his resignation in 1956. He was also chairman of the medical staff committees of several hospitals. He took a leading part in the negotiations between the medical profession and the Government before the introduction of the Medical Social Services Act 1948 and was a member of the steering committee that helped to guide the Bill through the Northern Ireland Parliament. He served as a member of the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority from 1948 until 1955.

Mr McClure's interest and participation in the affairs of the BMA spanned over 30 years,

beginning in 1938, when he was appointed secretary to the Northern Ireland branch. He gave many years of valuable service to many committees, being, among others, chairman of the Belfast division 1945-6, president of the Northern Ireland branch 1948-9 and 1961-2, chairman of the Northern Ireland Council 1960-7, and a member of Council in London 1960-71. In 1960 he was awarded the fellowship of the BMA and in 1977 he was made a vice-president.

In 1962 Mr McClure was elected to the parliament of Northern Ireland, where he served as a member for Queen's University until the abolition of university representation. In 1970 he was elected to the senate. He was an elder in his church, a member of synod, and on various committees of the assembly of the Presbyterian Church. He had a strong Christian faith and respected the faith and teachings of all.

Ian McClure was a shy man of great dignity, with never-failing courtesy and innate good manners. No matter how busy or tired, he always had time to listen to the problems of others, however trivial. His wide knowledge made it easy for him to discuss many subjects in addition to those connected with his profession. He was a dedicated family man and made no secret of the fact that all he had achieved depended to a large extent on the support of his devoted wife May. His daughter Rosemary was a great delight to him; she married Douglas Simpson, and his two grandchildren brought him much happiness.

It was inevitable that one day Ian McClure would no longer be with us, and those of us who knew this remarkable man can now look back and say, "I was indeed privileged." In writing this obituary I cannot help feeling inadequate as it would be impossible to write anything that would do justice to his many qualities and achievements. Perhaps I can best conclude by echoing the words of his great friend Dr Paddy Giff, who ended his tribute at Ian's memorial service by saying, "Let us remember Ian McClure as a man whose life was an inspiration and whose memory a benediction."—JMcDGH.

VR writes: I first met Ian McClure many years ago when we were both serving as members of Council. He was quiet and modest, but whenever he had occasion to speak his words were concise, well informed, and wise. He served both the BMA and Ulster well. His work as professor of gynaecology and obstetrics at Queen's University, Belfast, was the high point of a long and distinguished career and was marked by his deep compassion for all sufferers and by his unfailing kindness and gentleness. He was an inspiration to all who knew him. His last two years were marred by a grievous illness but, throughout, his courage and patience never failed, backed up as they were by his strong religious faith and by the devotion of his much loved wife and daughter.

L L DMOCHOWSKI

MD, PHD

Dr L Dmochowski, a leading figure in cancer virology in America since the 1940s, died of a heart attack last year while on holiday with his family in Mexico. He was 72. His survival from an earlier attack of great severity in 1976 could be described only as a triumph of an indomitable spirit over physical catastrophe that was generally expected to be quickly mortal, but his last five years were spent in great adversity of body and mind.

Leon L Dmochowski—Doctor D, as his colleagues in the virology department of the M D Anderson Hospital, Houston, Texas, called him—was born in Poland and graduated in medicine in 1937 at the University of Warsaw. He moved to Leeds, England, just before the second world war and began his lifelong studies on cancer, obtaining his PhD at Leeds University in 1949. He emigrated to the United States and joined the staff of the Anderson Hospital in 1954. In the following year he was appointed chief of virology and electron microscopy, which he remained until his retirement, prosecuting research in human and animal tumour virology, attracting large research grants, and yielding over 400 scientific publications.

In his working life in Houston Dr D adorned a great hospital and research institute, which tried to repay its debt for half a lifetime's service with compassionate care in his final years of ill health. Even in these last years his strength of spirit still gave him great nostalgic enjoyment. He owed these years to the selfless devotion of his wife Sheila, and his hopes were realised when his son Roger embarked on a medical career.—RCN.

J I SMITH

MB, CHB

Dr J I Smith, who was formerly a general practitioner in South Shields, died at East Boldon on 10 December, aged 78.

James Ian Smith was born in Peterhead, Scotland, the son of a general practitioner. He graduated in 1926 from the University of Aberdeen and entered general practice in South Shields soon after as assistant to Dr J Whyte. He later succeeded to the practice, where he remained until he retired in 1965. He served as secretary of the South Shields local medical committee from 1930 to 1960, when he was appointed chairman, an office he held until his retirement. In appreciation of his 35 years' service he was then made honorary life member, the only such appointment ever made. He was secretary of the local medical war recruitment committee from 1939 to 1960 and operated the scheme to protect practices of doctors serving with the Forces during the war. He played a large part in determining which general practitioners should

be retained in general practice and which of those of military age should go into the Forces as medical officers. It says a lot for his personality, wisdom, and tact that he carried out this difficult task smoothly and with the co-operation and respect of his colleagues.

Ian Smith carried and held together the South Shields division of the BMA as its secretary before, during, and immediately after the war. This was a difficult time for a division secretary, and those who succeeded him were grateful for the organisation and goodwill that he handed over. He was never too busy to give advice with his customary good humour. He also gave outstanding valuable service as a member, over many years, of many other committees, such as the National Health Executive Council and the Medical Services (Disciplinary) Committee.

Ian was an unassuming, quiet, most reliable man, much appreciated by his patients. He is survived by his wife Lorna, whom he married in 1928, and by one son and daughter.—RA.

R G S MEADLEY

MB, CHB

Dr R G S Meadley, who was a general practitioner in Scarborough, died suddenly on 18 February aged 76.

Richard George Senior Meadley—Dick—was born in Sheffield but moved to Scarborough during his first year of life when his father established a pharmacy in the town. He was educated at Scarborough Municipal School and Leeds University School of Medicine, graduating in 1930. After house appointments at the General Infirmary at Leeds he entered general practice in Scarborough in partnership with the late Dr Parker. During the war he served in the medical branch of Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force, attaining the rank of squadron leader. Returning from the war, he remained in practice until ill health forced him to retire in 1973. Dr John Adams replaced Dr Parker as partner in 1946 and the practice developed into a group.

Dick was conscientious and hard working, acting for many years also as police surgeon. He was a member of the BMA from graduation and played a vital part locally when the NHS was introduced in 1948. In his spare time he was a keen gardener and philatelist and was not averse to games of chance, especially games of solo at the golf club. He enjoyed the respect of his colleagues in general and hospital practice and the confidence and friendship of his patients. He is survived by his wife Grace and their son and two daughters, a family to whom he was devoted.—CAP.

R K HANLIN

TD, MB, CHB

Dr R K Hanlin, who was a general practitioner in Nairn for over 50 years and had a distinguished medical and military career, died on 17 February after a short illness. He was 82.

Reginald Kirk Hanlin—Reggie—was born in Clydebank, Glasgow, on 22 March 1899. He was educated at Clydebank High School and at Glasgow University, where he graduated in 1924. After a short time in general practice in England he returned to the Western

Infirmary, Glasgow, as a house surgeon. He moved to Nairn in 1925, where he combined general practice with surgery in the local hospital. Always immaculate in his appearance, he was a compassionate, thoughtful general practitioner in the best traditions of medicine and dedicated to his patients.

An enthusiastic Territorial, Reggie was commissioned into the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1930, rising to the rank of major. Shortly after the outbreak of war he was transferred to the RAMC, seeing service in the Middle East, rising to the rank of acting brigadier, and for a while being assistant director of medical services there. He commanded military hospitals in Tobruk and Alexandria. Demobilised in 1946, he returned to Nairn to continue in general practice until his retirement in 1976.

A great lover of music and the arts, Reggie Hanlin was an accomplished pianist and, in his prewar days, a leading light in Nairn amateur dramatics, tennis, and golf. He is survived by his wife and three sons, his youngest son having predeceased him in 1971.—WBS.

J C CLARK

MB, CHB, FRCS(ED)

Mr J C Clark, formerly consultant surgeon to the south Teesside hospitals, died suddenly on 24 December.

James Crabb Clark was born in Dunfermline in 1904 and educated at Dunfermline High School. He studied medicine at Edinburgh University, graduating with honours in 1928, a year of distinguished graduates: among his classmates were Ian Aird and John Bruce. His surgical training began when he was senior house surgeon to Leith Hospital and then

Hull Royal Infirmary. He gained the Edinburgh fellowship in 1932. In 1933 he moved to Middlesbrough, entering general practice and joining the staff of the North Riding Infirmary as honorary assistant surgeon and later as honorary surgeon. With the introduction of the Health Service in 1948 he decided to leave general practice. He was appointed consultant surgeon to the Newcastle regional hospital board, working in hospitals in Middlesbrough and Redcar until he retired in 1969. He was a fellow of the Association of Surgeons and a founder member of the North of England Surgical Society; he was elected president of that society in 1961-2, an office he prized greatly. After his retirement he spent much of his time in his beloved garden and on the golf course—pleasures he enjoyed until his last days.

During the war Jim carried the heavy burden of a large general and obstetric practice and a busy hospital commitment. Always unhurried in his work, his care and devotion to his patients were exemplary. His quiet manner instilled in his patients the full confidence that when he was with them they and they only were his one concern. Young men working with him learned that there was

more to surgery than technical ability, and few failed to absorb something of his individual personal approach to his patients. Throughout his medical life he was a loyal member of the BMA, being chairman of the Cleveland and Middlesbrough division in 1958-9 and chairman of the Teesside branch 1969-70. He played a large part in organising the BMA's clinical meeting in Middlesbrough in 1960.

Jim is survived by his wife Barbara—his partner for almost 50 years—his daughter Margaret, and his son Ian, who is in medical practice.—JWLD, GP.

A P MILLAR

DSO, DFC, MB, BS, MRCP, DOBSTRCOG

Dr A P Millar, a general practitioner at Benson, Oxfordshire, died at home on 22 February after a six-month illness. He was 62. He knew the fatal diagnosis from the start of his final illness and faced it with his customary courage.

Andrew Patrick Millar was the son of a general practitioner in north London. A classical scholar at Westminster School, he qualified in accountancy before deciding to study medicine and completed his first MB within a year. His medical studies were interrupted by the outbreak of war. Determined to be called up, he did not disclose that he was a medical student and took a colleague's urine sample to his RAF medical to conceal his albuminuria. He joined the RAF in 1940 and, once qualified as a pilot, was posted to 20 Squadron in India. He flew many sorties into Burma in a single-seater Lysander. In 1943 he was decorated with the DFC and during the same year he helped introduce Hurricane aircraft to 20 Squadron. His operational flying in Burma continued uninterrupted through to mid 1945, and the last six months were based in Siam. He was made squadron commander in 1944 and was decorated with the DSO in 1945.

In 1946 Andrew returned to England to continue medicine at University College Hospital. His keen interest in cricket led to a London University cricket purple, and he won the Fell surgical medal in 1949. His future wife, Anne, was also studying medicine in the same year, and they married in 1949. He and Anne then purposefully trained themselves for general practice with a wide variety of hospital appointments. After a short spell at Pontypool they settled in Oxfordshire in 1953 in a practice based on Benson and Dorchester-on-Thames. Andrew, together with his colleagues, influenced the development of the facilities and progressive concepts of their practice during these years. He had a particular interest in obstetrics, which he maintained throughout his practising life, stimulating his colleagues at the Wallingford hospitals.

Andrew was chairman of the Oxford division of the BMA and served on the local medical committee for over a decade. He was a founder member of the Royal College of General Practitioners. He played cricket for Ewelme and Wallingford and flew in gliders at RAF Benson. He encouraged many community projects in the Benson area and was a keen hill walker and gardener. He had a special knowledge and love of orchids. He enjoyed a happy and stimulating married life; he and Anne were in practice together at Benson from 1970 onwards, and it was a true partnership. Of their three children, their elder daughter and son are both doctors.—TJH.